PATENT RECEIVED

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

FRANZ NIEDEREDER ET AL-1 (PCT)

SERIAL NO:

10/049,787

EXAMINER: C.C. SHAW

FILED:

February 15, 2002 GROUP: 1725

TITLE:

WELDING UNIT EQUIPPED WITH A COMMUNICATIONS

INTERFACE AND METHOD FOR OPERATING THE WELDING UNIT

PETITION UNDER RULE 136(a) AND RULE 17(a)(1)

ATTN: MAIL STOP FEE AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O.Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant petitions the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to extend the time for response to the Office Action dated December 8, 2003 for two months from March 8, 2004 to May 8, 2004 (Saturday). The Commissioner is bereby authorized to charge \$420.00 for a Large entity and any additionally required fee, or to credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 03-2468.

Respectfully submitted,

NIEDEREDER ET AL

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by facsimile transmission to the U.S.P.T.O. to Patent Examiner C.C. SHAW at Group No. 1725, to $\frac{1-703-872-9311}{1}$ on May 10, 2004.

William C. Collard